

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: T. NAKAMINAMI et al  
 Serial No. 09/523,382  
 Filed: March 10, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2155  
 Examiner: L. Wang  
 For: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING A  
 DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM

22389 U.S. PTO  
 10/646845  
 08/25/03

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
 Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/523,382, filed on March 10, 2000, entitled METHOD FOR CONTROLLING A DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM, by the inventor named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.

2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

**CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION**  
**LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW**  
**PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Basic Fee										\$ 750.00
Total Claims	5	-	20	=	0	x	18	=	\$	.00
Independent Claims	2	-	3	=	0	x	84	=	\$	.00
Total Filing Fee										\$ 750.00

3. A Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 2 and 4 before calculating the Filing Fee. A Preliminary Amendment is submitted herewith.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No.  
09/523,382, filed March 10, 2000.

7. New drawings are enclosed, twenty-nine (29) sheets, Figs. 1-45.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174  
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663  
John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293  
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846  
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

**There is a change in the correspondence address.**

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370  
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(703) 684-1120

**Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.**

9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Limited.

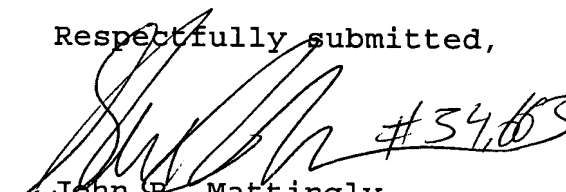
10. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 11-070623, filed March 16, 1999.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/523,382, as originally filed on March 10, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

 #34,63  
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Attorney of Record

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Date: August 25, 2003

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